**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHITMINSTER PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WHITMINSTER ON WEDNESDAY 4TH JULY, 2018.**

Prior to the commencement of the meeting Council met informally at 7:00pm to consider recommendations put forward by Cllr & Mrs Jones to consider the installation of new outdoor fitness equipment to be sited on the Playing Field. This was a precursor to an application being submitted to Cllr Stephen Davies for County Council grant funding. All were supportive of the proposal and the submission.

**Public Forum**

The owner of Yew Tree Cottage set out his objections to proposals for a new dwelling on adjacent land. A copy of his letter of objection to Stroud District Council was submitted to the Parish Council for information. It was noted that the application would be discussed later during the Parish Council meeting.

**00/07**

**Present**

There were 6 Councillors present including Cllrs Jones (Chairman), Hay (Vice-Chairman), Braidford, Douglas, Mrs Gilmore and Peters.

There was two members of the public in attendance.

**01/07**

**Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Paynter at the beginning of the meeting. He attended briefly to explain that he had to attend work and also to present invoices that had been awaited for materials for repairs to the skate ramp. An apology was also received from the Proper Officer who was unable to attend and it was noted that his retirement was expected in due course.

**02/07**

**Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Jones, Douglas and Mrs Gilmore declared a non-pecuniary interest in regard to item 5 of the Agenda as they are members of the Whitminster Village Hall & Playing Field Management Committee.

**03/07**

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the July meeting were signed as a true record subject to minor typographical error amendments.

**04/07**

**Matters Arising**

Bus Shelter Bench Seats – It was confirmed that these had been delivered to Cllr Jones who had contacted local builder Mr Nick Jones who was intending to install them within 2 to 3 weeks.

Litter/Poop Scoop Bin

The new bin, to be installed by the weir, had been ordered and would be delivered to the Chairman as soon as possible. He agreed to ask Mr Jones if he would also install this item.

**05/07**

**Community Fund**

Council resolved to accept the recommendations outlined by Cllr & Mrs Jones, in an earlier informal meeting, in regard to proposals for outdoor gym equipment for the Playing Field. The proposed equipment would be supplied by Caloo. Following on from this decision it was agreed that an application should be submitted to the County Councillor’s Community Fund for financial assistance. If successful, Cllr Jones advised that there could be up to £5,000 forthcoming from funds raised by villagers for new playground equipment in previous years and that was surplus to requirements. This money is currently held by the Management Committee.

**06/07**

**Police & Community Safety Issues**

Emergency Plan

The Chairman advised that this matter would proceed once two of the three councillors tasked with this matter had recovered from recent operations.

Neighbourhood Warden

A final monthly report from Neighbourhood Warden, Andy Beamish, had been received and circulated by email. Correspondence had also been received from the District Council advising that he would be moving to a new area from 16th July and Carol Novoth would then become the Warden for the area. She would introduce herself in due course.

Other Matters

Cllr Peters brought up the matter of parking in The Close and asked that information be sought from Stroud District Council (SDC), Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Highways and Land Registry to ascertain the ownership of parcels of land adjacent to the junction of The Close with School Lane. He also requested that VOSA be contacted concerning the parking of the KB minibus often parked overnight in The Close and also the status of the shed where vehicle repairs were being carried out. It was proposed that SDC be contacted again to investigate the possibility of extra parking bays being created on land it owns in The Close and that, in regard to existing spaces being use by people who are not residents of The Close, signs should be erected stating ‘Residents Use Only’. The Clerk was to investigate these matters.

**07/07**

**Planning**

Decisions to Note

There were no decisions to note.

Approved.

Applications to Consider

S.18/1308/FUL Land Adjacent to Yew Tree Cottage, School Lane, Whitminster.

Erection of 3 bedroom dwelling.

Council objected to this application with its comments unchanged from the objections raised in respect of the previous proposal for the site.

S.18/1244/HHOLD 2 Little Holbury, Whitminster.

Replacement roof over rear conservatory.

Council commented that the use of a metal roof would be out of keeping with the surrounding street scene and materials used locally.

S.18/1366/CPL 9 Little Holbury, Whitminster.

Rear flat roof dormer, skylights to the front elevation to form bedroom and en-suite.

Council had no comments or objections to make.

S.18/1048/FUL Attwoolls Bristol Road Whitminster

Creation of a new access to the A38 together with an associated change of use of land from residential garden to commercial.

Council did not object to this application but raised a comment concerning the width of the North bound right turning central reservation.

Other Planning Matters

None.

**08/07**

**Highways & Byways**

Footpaths Map

Nothing further to report on the matter of footpath issues in the absence of Cllr Paynter.

Verge Cutting

Council was informed that the first verge cut had been completed, invoiced and paid between meetings. All agreed that a second cut should be scheduled for August and if completed at the same cost would be within budget. Council would receive reimbursement following the application of an invoice to GCC Highways in the Autumn.

Other Matters

There was nothing further heard on the matters concerning highways that Cllr Davies was following up from a previous meeting.

Dates for the proposed closure of the A38 cross-roads central area had been received and widely publicised.

**09/07**

**War Memorial**

The Clerk had reported that he was finding it difficult to make contact with McAllisters to progress the cleaning of the War Memorial. Cllr Douglas agreed to visit their premises early one morning to make contact. A quote of £3,615 to replace all paving around the War Memorial, including all known extras, was accepted with work anticipated to commence on 17th July.

**10/07**

**Skate Ramp**

Nothing further to report.

**11/07**

**Accounts**

Accounts for Payment

Cheques previously agreed had been issued for payment of CPRE membership renewal and verge mowing as referred to above. Cheques would need to be issued between meetings in regard to the paving work at the War Memorial and the installation of the bus shelter benches and these would be reported at subsequent meetings.

Other Financial Matters

There was no report on audit matters.

**12/07**

**Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were received:

CPRE Newsletter.

Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine.

Trow Magazine.

Information letter concerning the oil pipeline passing through the village.

**13/07**

**Chairman’s Items & District Councillor’s Report**

The Chairman gave an update on matters current at Stroud District Council but his potential Chairman’s items had been covered elsewhere during the meeting. District Council matters included the proposal to introduce car parking charges in SDC operated car parks in local towns where parking is currently free. Cllr Jones advised that the Conservative Group was opposing the measure. He went on to report that the green waste collection service had reached capacity in some areas of the District and there was a waiting list for the Severnside Parishes, charges for this service and bulky waste collection are likely to increase in the near future. Finally, there would be a special Council meeting on 9th August to ratify the appointment of a new Chief Executive.

**14/07**

**Other Business**

Schoolfield Close Ditch – Cllr Jones advised that nothing further had been heard.

Litter Pick – This matter had been placed on hold.

**15/07**

**Future Agenda Items**

Cllr Jones informed the meeting that he would be admitted to hospital on 21st July for a second hip replacement. As a result it was agreed that unless an important matter arose there would be no meeting during the month of August and Council would reconvene on 5th September, 2018.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

 **CHAIRMAN** – Wednesday 5th September, 2018.